

GO TO THE CITIES, TOWNS AND VILLAGES.

PHILADELPHIA, March 24, 1919 Germantown Ave.

MR. T. J. FAHNEY, DEAR BROTHER.

Your kind letter received. Was glad to hear from you and be considered as among your special friends. Financially we are suffering as a church and community, but spiritually we are prospering. Brother Bowman is doing a grand work here. We are wonderfully encouraged. Large audiences, and baptisms every Sunday evening, ranging in ages from ten to eighty, and in morals, from the moralist to the gutter, all kinds, sizes, and ages are flocking home. The Philadelphia Brethren church has nearly doubled since Bro. Bowman is with us. He honors God by preaching "his" word, and God honors him by giving him souls for his hire. Bro. Piper was with us over the holidays. Preached for us Sunday evening a good practical sermon on the needs of the Church. Bro. Piper loves the Phila. church. He is developing finely and will be a useful man for the church, in the future, if he steers clear of the "Devil's Lie" by which so many preachers are deceived in this progressive age, as were Eve and Adam. I put Eve first because she made the first mistake. The Devil's lie is, "Ye shall not surely die." By the same lie preachers and people, are still deceived when they teach, preach and believe this, that, and the other, is it not necessary no matter how plainly the Lord commands it? Some of the plainest commandments in the Bible popular religion ignores, and many emphatically deny. They agree with the Devil that the Lord did not say so, and hence many are deceived. I was very much pleased to hear that you finally concluded to heed another of God's commandments to "go" into the byways and hedges. You may build churches out in the woods miles away from any city, town or village, cry for the sinners to come, but few will come. But if we "go" as we are commanded, go where, go into the cities, towns and villages, where the sinners are. You may say there are sinners in the country; so there are, a few, but why not let down the net on the other side, as the Master said, and catch a net full. The cities, which the Dunkard church has so studiously avoided, are the "other side." And if the Progressive Brethren had been true to their name and struck right for the cities, towns and villages, instead of grumbling and fighting about some old shell of a church in the woods some where, they would today out number the old church five to one at least. When the old Methodist Protestant mother got into a squabble with her children, the children immediately struck for the cities and called themselves the Methodist Episcopal and went to work. And do you know, yes you do, that they are doing a good business, a big business. At least in our part of the country you hardly know that there is a Methodist Protestant church. God could not blessed them so signally for their obedience,

for in some things they are far off; but they have obeyed the one commandment to "go."—Go where the people are, where the sinners are. It is the first great commandment, in the great commission of Christ to the Apostles "Go" ye into all nations, go where the people are into the cities where the sheaves lie thick, one against the other.

Put down your net on the other side. If I could preach at all, a country church could not hire me. I would prefer to gather where the sheaves are plentiful. Hence I say "Hurrah," for the Hagerstown church; even if I can not help to put it there. May the Lord bless you all. Amen.

Fraternally,

H. C. CASSEL.

CHAOS AND COSMOS.

Hopeless must have been the dilemma of editor and compositor in handling my manuscript published in No. 13. I do not blame them, except in the punctuation which they doubtless contrived so as to get sense out of a mangled monosyllable. On third page, first column, second paragraph, fourth and fifth lines, read thus: *Not a few testify otherwise.* Transmute pen into few, erase comma at testify, and place a period after otherwise. Then there will be sense, at least grammatically.

Love is the center of Christianity, and self-sacrifice is the essence of love. When we have learned this, we will be an ecclesia of miniature emmanuels, and Rev. xi, 15, will be speedily realized.

C. H. BALSBAUGH.

Union Deposit.

HUNTINGTON, INDIANA.

We were compelled to stop the meeting in the Roanoke class on account of sickness. The fire had just begun to burn. Four had come out and many more near. Over work seems to be main cause. We expect to resume soon, and then go over in Ill. I am sorry to disappoint my people. I hope the churches will bear with me, and will work the faster when we begin.

J. H. PALMER.

No. 3 Grayston Avenue.

A LOUD LETTER AND TO THE POINT.

BROTHER HARRISON:—You may enroll me on the "ten dollar list" to help pay the Publishing House debt. I sent \$10 to Brother Holsinger the other day, and I would say nothing about it, if that list was not growing so slow. I am really getting ashamed of our recklessness in paying our honest debts. What is the matter with all our big brothers in the Brotherhood? It appears to take more powder to get them to reach down into their pockets to pay their debts, than it does to blast the gold and silver out of the mines.

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